was in such a hurry to do everything that was necessary to prevent mischief, repair the neglect of others, &c., that I scarce found time to read and answer yours. I am now a little more at leisure, though by no means quite rid of the load of public correspondence which is come in a lump, and is very heavy. Besides, at the same time, the "commission des ^changes" has given me a very voluminous parcel of memoirs to examine, palliate, refute, &c., for I am *le grand médiateur des deux cdtes.* Both parties believe me and yield to my arguments; but they are always complaining, always ready to pull caps, and I am continually running about with my pen *pour mettre le kola. I* have got quite the knack of it, and have a great deal to do to persuade both parties that they are quarrelling about abso-lute nonsense. I have sent duplicates of my letters about business, by different channels; there-fore I hope all will be pacified.

Think of our old friend Barth6lerny having been unanimously carried up to the vacant seat among the Directory. His brother, the medal-

list,[1] is gone to overcome his *nolo episcopari* and bring him to Paris.

[1] Author of "Les Voyages du Jeune Anacharsis."